IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| In re application of: | |) |
|-----------------------|---|---------------|
| | Johnny Zhong et al. |) |
| Serial No: | 10/712,066 |) Art Unit |
| Filed: | November 13, 2003 |) 2883 |
| For: | ATHERMAL FUSED COUPLER PACKAGE FOR OPTICAL FIBERS |))) |
| Examiner: | Kaveh C. Kianni |) |

COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

Mail Stop Issue Fee Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance as set forth in the communications mailed on February 2, 2006. The Applicant concurs with the Examiner's conclusion that the prior art does not suggest or render obvious the claimed invention. However, Applicant submits that it is the claim as a whole, rather than any particular limitation, that makes each of the claims in the above-identified application allowable. No single limitation should be construed as the reason for allowance of a claim because it is each of the elements of the claim that distinguish the claim from the prior art and make it allowable.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: May 2, 2006

By: E-Ullul ERIC L. MASCHOFF

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